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 T H E 5 0 M H z D X B U L L E T I N  
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 VOLUME #2 ( J A N U A R Y 1 9 9 1 ) ISSUE #1  
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 N O R T H A M E R I C A N N E W S

**VP2VCW DX-PEDITION RESULTS (OCT 1990):** Terry Baxter N6CW/VP2VCW sends along the following report:  
 "Just a note concerning my VP2VCW expedition from October 19 through October 30th....in one word, POOR. My equipment consisted of the new 5 element/20 foot boom antenna, an IC505 and a 150 watt amplifier. The only openings I worked were the evening TEP into South America which included PYØ, PY, LU, CX and CE. It was encouraging to note the very active PY stations every night, as this is a tough path from home. At least they are there. The only other stations worked were KP2, KP4 and the ZD8 beacon was heard several times for hours."  
**QSL INFO:** Terry Baxter N6CW, 4639 Katherine Place, La Mesa, California 92041

**FG/W3OTC DX-PEDITION RESULTS (NOV-DEC 1990):** Bob Carpenter W3OTC sends along the following report:  
 "Presented below is a summary of my operation as FG/W3OTC which took place from November 19 until December 1, 1990. In general, propagation conditions were poor, and I managed to go sight-seeing for the only fairly good F2 opening into the US. A total of 34 stations were worked at least once. They were in 14 countries on 4 continents. Thanks to FG/F6EPY, I actually worked Guadeloupe on 6M. During my stay, FG/F6EPY came over to my place and we talked at length. The view of 6M propagation in the Paris area is a lot different from that in W3. They get quite a bit of TEP, but hardly any aurora. Getting back to my FG operation, TEP was evident each evening into LU, CX, PY and ZD8. For example (on Nov 24th) the ZD8VHF beacon was audible at 2140Z in the afternoon. Then, at 2150Z, TR8CA was worked. Later at 2217Z, the PT7BCN (ex: PT7AAC) beacon became audible. This TE stuff is not at all what we hear in W3!!! One observation is that the South Americans really don't want to move off of 50.110 MHz. They will stay on "110" even if there are three or four QSO's on the frequency."  
**QSL INFO:** Robert Carpenter W3OTC, 12708 Circle Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850-3713

NOV 20	0004Z	CX4DO	NOV 20	2350Z	V29OA	NOV 24	2333Z	PY5CC
	0018Z	PU2WBS	NOV 21	0001Z	PY5EX		2346Z	LU9EHF
	0025Z	PY5EJ		0005Z	LU9AEA	NOV 25	0018Z	KB6SL/CE3
	0120Z	6W1QC		0007Z	LW1DWT		2358Z	CX2DQ
	0125Z	PY5CC		0027Z	FG/F6EPY	NOV 26	0018Z	ZP6XDW
	0141Z	PY2MEM		0056Z	PU2WBS	NOV 27	0055Z	CX4DO
	1355Z	HC8SIX HRD		0103Z	QA8ABT		0202Z	PY5CC
	2311Z	LU2DEK		2347Z	CX4DO	NOV 29	2314Z	CX4DO
	2314Z	LU3EX		2348Z	CX4HS		2319Z	CX8BE
	2316Z	CX8BE	NOV 22	0004Z	PYØFF		2329Z	PYØFF
	2318Z	LU3DGA		0009Z	PY2DSC	NOV 30	1528Z	W5ØZI HRD
	2323Z	LU6DLB		1357Z	J6LRX		1529Z	W5VY
	2325Z	PP5WL		2313Z	CX4DO	DEC 1	1245Z	CN2JP
	2333Z	PY2DWP		2315Z	CX2DQ		1254Z	CULEZ
	2337Z	PY2DSC		2337Z	PY5CC		1556Z	V29OA
	2341Z	PY3CR	NOV 23	0036Z	PY5CC			
	2344Z	LU3EW		2155Z	TR8CA			
	2345Z	PY2GNS	NOV 24	2327Z	LU1VK			

**C6A/KA3B DX-PEDITION RESULTS (NOV-DEC 1990):** Upon my arrival at Treasure Cay on Great Abaco (FL16) on Tuesday, November 27th, I immediately set-up the 6M and 10M stations. By a stroke of luck, the 6M band was beginning to go into a frenzy due to flare-induced transcontinental F2. Hearing reports on 28.885 of contacts taking place between both coasts, I immediately began calling CQ towards the west in the DX Window. After nearly 15 minutes of no returns to my CQ's, I began searching the band for others who might be calling. The first station contacted was WA7TDZ in Oregon on 50.135 MHz SSB. After we exchanged our info I searched the band again and heard K6QXY calling "CQ Caribbean" in the DX Window. K6QXY was worked after several minutes. (I later found out from Bob that my signal was being covered up by stateside QRM and backscatter). Unfortunately, these were the only contacts made during the two hour opening. It was frustrating to hear of W4-to-KL7 QSO's on 28.885 while I had absolutely no propagation. The only other F2 contact made during my operation was with LA9ZV near Oslo, Norway on the very last morning (December 4th). However, my operation was not a total loss. A very intense Es opening took place during most of the day on November 28th which gave me 13 hours of continuous propagation into the Eastern US and VE1 and VE3!! Unfortunately, with it being a work-day for most, the contacts did not come as fast or as often as I would have liked. After working into VE1, VE3, W1, W2, W3, W8, W9, WØ and W5 most of the day, the skip began shortening up around 0010Z with W4's in the South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama areas pounding in at S9+++. Surprisingly, a number of stations commented that I was a new country during this intense short-skip opening. These super-strong signals were a blessing as I had experienced severe power line noise most of the day which caused a constant static level of S9 on my IC551D. It is for this reason that I must apologize to some of the weak stations that called me and I could not hear. I learned later that several stations were copying me weakly (but readable) via double-hop Es. Although the static was partly to blame, I learned a very valuable lesson - during intense Es events where signals are several dB over S9, occasionally take a stand-by for stations calling via multi-hop propagation who will be generally much weaker. I know this is no excuse, but I guess that it is human nature to "always" answer the loudest and strongest signal on the band. I have learned a valuable lesson and promise to exercise operating "courtesy" in the future.



**C6A/KA3B DX-PEDITION RESULTS (Continued):**

Number of different stations worked:	W1 (21)	W2 (12)	W3 (13)	W4 (46)	W5 (42)	W6 (1)	W7 (1)	W8 (49)
Total: 238 stations	W9 (26)	W0 (12)	VE1 (2)	VE3 (9)	YS (1)	V3 (1)	TI (1)	LA (1)
Number of different grids worked:	EL (4)	EM (44)	EN (21)	FM (6)	FN (17)	EK (2)	EJ (1)	JO (1)
Total: 98 grid squares								CM (1) CN (1)

  

First stations QSO'ed for each new country worked:	United States	WA7TDZ	11-27-90	2114Z	F2
	Canada	VE3FIT	11-28-90	0010Z	ES
	El Salvador	YS1ECB	11-28-90	0110Z	ES
	Belize	V31PC	11-28-90	1852Z	ES
	Costa Rica	TI2NA	11-28-90	1934Z	ES
	Norway	LA9ZV	12-4-90	1400Z	F2

**KM1E/C6A OPERATION PLANNED THROUGH MARCH 1991:** Bill Wiseman KM1E reports that he will be active from Green Turtle Cay, Abaco (grid: FL16) from December 25th through March 8th. This operation will be continuous except for a 10 day period when he returns to the states at the end of January/beginning of February. Bill's equipment is a Kenwood TS680S with a brick amplifier putting out about 65 watts to a 4 element yagi.

**QSL INFO:** Bill Wiseman KM1E, P.O. Box 120, Woolwich, Maine 04579

**VE1XDX (NOVA SCOTIA) NOW QRV ON 6M:** Mike Dunn VE1XDX was licensed on November 5th, 1990 and within two weeks had worked 20 DXCC countries with an IC551 at 10 watts output and a 4 element Hy-Gain at 70 feet fed with hardline. On December 2nd Mike received his TE Systems 170 watt amplifier and is now using it on the band. His grid square is FN84.

**QSL INFO:** Mike Dunn VE1XDX, Box 64, RR #2, Head of Chezzetcook, Nova Scotia, Canada B0J 1N0

**CANADIAN PREFIXES:** The DX Bulletin which is published by Chod Harris VP2ML reports that Canadian amateurs may use special prefixes in February as follows: VE1-8 (CG1-8) VY1 (VG1) VY2 (VG2) VY9 (VG9) VO1-2 (VO5-6) These prefixes are in honor of the Canada Winter Games.

**J73PD DOMINICA:** John Walker WZ8D says that he spoke with Peter Dewhurst J73PD on the telephone a few weeks back and learned the following: On those still waiting for QSL's for contacts with J73PD, Peter said that he would begin getting them out right away. As for his operating schedule, Peter said that he was experiencing some rig problems but that he would be back on the air by the time this reaches print. His phone number is 809-448-2158 (Home) and 809-448-2781 (Work).

**QSL INFO:** Peter Dewhurst J73PD, P.O. Box 104, Roseau, Dominica

**6Y5IC JAMAICA:** Wenty Bethune 6Y5IC reports that when the band is quiet he will run a keyer on 50.025 MHz.

**8P6JW/8P6LL BARBADOS:** Ed Mason K2QIE (QSL Manager) says PLEASE DO NOT SEND CARDS DIRECT TO 8P6JW/8P6LL. John and Elsa Webster (8P6JW and 8P6LL respectively) are too busy at this time to answer any cards. They have a business which keeps them going 12-14 hours a day and they are also buying a house and trying to get it liveable before they move in.

**QSL INFO:** Ed Mason K2QIE, 129 Cherry Hill Road, Maine, New York 13802

**CANADAWARD UPDATE:** Larry Lambert N0LL reports that in order to qualify for the 50 MHz endorsement for the CANADAWARD (which was outlined in the September 1990 REPORT), the operators worked on 6M MUST LIVE IN CANADA. Larry submitted a Northwest Territories QSL for a contact with W6JKV/VE8 and it was refused! Does anyone know of a VE8 station who is willing to put some operating time into 6 meters??? If so, let me know. (Thx KA3B)

**REPORT FROM WA1OUB:** Bob Mobile WA1OUB (NH FN43) reports that he worked his 100th country on November 11th when 4 DL's went into the logbook. In comparing the November 1989 conditions with November of this year, there has been quite a difference. In 1989 Bob had 460 F2 QSO's in 35 countries during November. This year, only 145 F2 QSO's were made into 23 countries.

**QSL INFO:** Bob Mobile WA1OUB, 33 Kimball Hill Road, Hillsboro, New Hampshire 03244

**REPORT FROM K0TLM:** Tom Bishop K0TLM (MO EM29) reports that an Es opening on November 1st enabled him to log 4 new countries on 6M. During a weak Caribbean opening on November 4th, W6JKV/J79 was worked at 1535Z and FM5WD at 1542Z (both CW). The only really good DX in Tom's area was on November 11th at 1603Z when Z23JO popped in for about 6 minutes.

**QSL INFO:** Tom Bishop K0TLM, 4936 N. Kansas Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64119

**REPORT FROM W2IDZ:** Ed Ladd W2IDZ (NJ FN20) reports that at the end of 1989 he had 91 countries worked and confirmed. The only new countries worked so far this year were 6W1QC and OZ1ELF. Ed's XYL Leta (WA2QCE) had 67 countries at the end of 1989 after only 5 1/2 years of chasing DX on the band. Leta has worked only three new countries this year bringing her up to 70. New countries for her included ZB2HN, 6W1QC and OZ1ELF. Ed further states that the fall season was a big disappointment. With all of the new countries that are now on the band and with the increase in activity, he expected to have attained DXCC by now. I am quite sure he is not alone!

**REPORT FROM K6QXY:** Bob Magnani K6QXY (CA CM87) sends along the following:

"I don't believe anyone in California has worked a single new country this fall! I am still stuck at 82 and WA6BYA at 90. We both thought that DXCC was possible this cycle but it's looking more and more unlikely as time goes on. It's very frustrating to hear all the European reports on 28.885 and not a trace of a signal out here! The only thing I've heard in that direction was on December 8th from 1716-1730Z, 48.252 MHz video from Norway (I think??) at S1-S3...that's it!"

**QSL INFO:** Robert Magnani K6QXY, P.O. Box 789, Glen Ellen, California 95442

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**1991 6 METER BEACON SURVEY:** Over the past two weeks I have been sending out the beacon survey forms for 1991 to all known custodians in order to update the beacon list. Several forms have already been returned and I am hoping that by March or April the new list will be available. If you know of a new beacon which has just been activated, please send the callsign to me so I may get a survey form sent out to its operator/custodian. (Thx KA3B)



by Shel Remington NI6E/KH6, Box 1222, Kaaau, HI 96749

30 November 1990

I enjoyed the item by GJ4ICD in the December 1990 KA3B 6-Meter Report, and I certainly agree that the 'panic...to get the latest [WWV] Solar Figures' is unwarranted, and in fact it causes needless QRM and clutter on 28.885. Regular participants on that frequency have already heard me state some of the following, but it seems worthwhile to get it into print once and for all.

Geoff is correct in that anyone who takes the time to graph the daily 2800 MHz solar flux as a function of any aspect of F2 propagation on 50 MHz soon realizes that these two variables are generally not correlated. It has become a source of some amusement when naive 6-meter operators are overheard to say, "Gee, the flux is over 200, so why don't we have any F2 openings?" or the converse, "But the flux is only 140, how come the band is red hot today?" Being one of those privileged to monitor 28.885 for many hours every day, I can't help but notice that the number of people reporting new countries being worked on 6m often appears to be inversely proportional to the daily solar flux, quite the opposite of what we have been led to expect. The Flux Cult has become so pervasive that, in a triumph of lily-gilding (where the lily is made out of hole cloth), one manufacturer of amateur equipment is now selling an expensive transceiver (see QST Nov.1990 page 33) that incorporates a digital clock which chimes at :16 past each hour to warn the user to check the upcoming WWV solar/geomagnetic report! The whole concept is reminiscent of numerology or astrology or any number of other pseudo-sciences, in which the adherents are so boggled by the true complexity of Nature that they embrace anything which appears to offer simplicity.

To see how this situation arose, we need to step back a couple of decades. In several landmark articles in QST starting with the 'DXers Crystal Ball' series, Ed Tilton W1HDQ explored the possibility of predicting F-region propagation by means of methods accessible to amateurs. Initially, this concentrated on visual sunspot observation. While sunspot activity is very interesting from an astronomical viewpoint, it soon became apparent that radio amateurs, by and large, were not motivated to invest in the needed optics and take the time to make daily sunspot observations. This is unfortunate for astronomy because the AAVSO American Sunspot Number program is one of the few ongoing projects in which amateurs are making a significant contribution to the field. Anyway, Ed soon decided that since the 2800 MHz Ottawa solar flux is broadcast daily on WWV and thus accessible by anyone with a shortwave receiver, it might make a good substitute for the SSN. After all, anyone who examines a long-term smoothed graph of SSN versus flux can't help but notice that they track closely, and furthermore they both peak around the years when the F-region MUFs are at a maximum (e.g., 1958). Graphs and formulae were then published showing the mathematical relationship between smoothed SSN and smoothed flux, and these are reasonably accurate although not exact. DXers who had copies of the old CRPL books showing smoothed global F2 MUF distributions as a function of smoothed SSN could now use flux information, it appeared, for predictions. With the advent of personal computers, software was written based on the CRPL database and this software was welcomed with open arms because it was so convenient. Some writers proceeded to publish tables showing that for each historical sunspot maximum, the beginning and end of widespread F2 openings at 50 MHz coincided with a particular level of smoothed SSN and flux, and this led to the widespread belief in the magic flux level of 200 for 6m DX.

All of these developments were logical and properly rooted in scientific fact. But obviously something is wrong because, as noted above, the obsessive checking of the daily WWV flux number has failed to produce any improvement in our prediction ability. What happened is that somewhere along the way (actually, many writers seem to have independently made the same fatal error), the critical adjective "smoothed" was omitted. This concept of **smoothing** means that the data are averaged over a 13-month period centered on the date in question, which unfortunately means that smoothed numbers are not available until 6.5 months later. And close inspection of the data archives reveals that, while the smoothed variables do track closely, the (unsmoothed) daily variables do not. When looked at on a daily or other short-term basis, the flux diverges wildly from the SSN and both of them diverge from the levels of F-region ionization. The CRPL database was never intended to be used with daily SSN, and its accuracy when used that way is so poor as to render it almost useless. The same applies to all PC prediction software, and to the 200-flux "magic number."

The reason why daily 2800 MHz flux and SSN fail to predict daily ionization is that those two wavelengths of solar radiation are spectrally far away from the wavelengths that actually excite the ionosphere. The flux wavelength is about 0.1 meter; the sunspot number is observed in the visual spectrum around 0.7 micrometer; while the F-region is primarily ionized by ultraviolet radiation around 0.03 micrometer. Note that these wavelengths differ by orders of magnitude! Since the spectral distribution of solar output varies tremendously (and unpredictably) with time, it is quite possible for the radio flux or SSN to be constant while the UV fluctuates, or vice versa. Unfortunately for amateur observers, Earth's atmosphere is totally opaque in the short UV range, so measurements of such radiation can only be made from above the atmosphere. Satellite UV data are available at NOAA SEL, so perhaps they could be petitioned to make such



data available via WWV, and while they're at it, they could start giving us more data on the intensity of flares, the disappearance of filaments, and coronal hole activity. Meanwhile, the NOAA SEL BBS at 303-497-5000 (see QST Nov. 1990 p.41) does include some items that should be more useful, at least, than the WWV flux: the X-ray background level and the proton fluence are both listed under option A, sub-item E "daily indices." Anyone with a modem who connects to that BBS could do us all a favor by relaying those items on 28.885. It would be wonderful if someone in the Denver/Boulder area could make such calls on a daily basis, since it would be a local call from that area.

The WWV flux may not be totally useless. Several 6m DXers have observed that F2 MUFs tend to be elevated, beginning roughly 3 days after the flux peaks, and ending roughly when the flux bottoms out, in its 27-day periodicity. So it is the trend of the flux, rather than its actual value, that seems at least a little bit useful. Another item mentioned on WWV is the "solar activity for the last 24 hours," which is based on X-ray fluence, although it's given on a very coarse 5-point scale from very low to very high. I believe that the x-ray activity has more in common with the short UV than the radio flux does, so that little item may actually be the most useful in the whole WWV report. Certainly the WWV predictions "for the next 24 hours" for both solar and geomagnetic activity are nothing but crude guesses and rarely prove accurate if those variables do anything but hold still.

As for the magnetic indices, again there seems to be an ill-founded belief that "the quieter, the better," as Geoff points out. This appears to have begun with articles in CQ Magazine by a writer who shall remain nameless, in which formulae and graphs were published proclaiming such a relationship. And again, the idea has been perpetuated in recent propagation software. It is clear that, at 50 MHz at least, prolonged periods of geomagnetic quiet actually appear to suppress the F2 MUF, a factor which I believe was at least partly responsible for the very poor conditions in November 1990. The one exception seems to be transpolar paths, where anything but extreme quiet appears to preclude F2 propagation. On the other hand, a really major geomagnetic storm with A-indices exceeding, say, 80 or 100, also suppresses normal F2 (for example, the storm of 13 March 1989), but when such a storm is subsiding, there can be spectacular F2 openings worldwide. So it appears that intermediate A- and K-indices may be the best. But even so, 2 dates with identical indices can differ dramatically; perhaps the aforementioned proton fluence data on the SEL BBS can help sort this out.

Finally, those attempting analysis of past events should be aware that the WWV numbers are preliminary. The final data are published in the monthly Solar-Geophysical Data, and reprinted in the Journal of Geophysical Research, section A, available in many university libraries, and also, of course, they are archived in Boulder and at other World Data Centers. Certainly the 1800 UTC Boulder A-index so favored by the cultists should never be used for serious analysis, because, as stated by WWV, that is a preliminary number encompassing only an 18-hour period, and it is usually changed at 2400 UTC to a semi-final value. Likewise, all the magnetic indices on WWV are local Boulder numbers, and should be supplanted by the final Planetary indices as given in SGD and JGR. Anyone using the formulae for conversion of flux to SSN or vice versa should keep in mind that such formulae are crude empirical approximations of a relationship which is not a simple function, so please leave off the decimals. For use with prediction software, the best numbers are the predicted smoothed monthly sunspot numbers issued by A. Koeckelenburgh of the Sunspot Index Data Center in Brussels; these are published in Sky & Telescope every month and tend to be quite accurate. This number for January 1991 is 134.

The most powerful predictor at this point seems to be that actual 50 MHz F2 propagation events are most likely to recur at 27-day intervals. This has, of course, been known for several decades, but often seems to be overlooked by modern 6m DXers in the rush to get the WWV flux. I have found it to be surprisingly useful during Cycle 22.

Geoff raised several other points. On the matter of backscatter, or more accurately sidescatter, I get lots of it at my geomagnetic dip latitude, and it always fits a certain pattern. Signals are weak and diffuse, whether the distances are short or long (such as ZC4-KH6 and 6W1-KH6), and the poorly-equipped stations, along with those who insist on using SSB, are never heard. The stations at both ends generally do have strong reception to the intermediate point to which the antennas are pointed if there is any activity there (South America in the 2 cases cited above). These are all hallmarks of scatter. By great contrast, the true long-path openings I've witnessed (and heard described) show strong, clear signals, even from the small stations, and the antenna bearings never deviate noticeably from the great-circle long path azimuth. Added to all this, I cannot imagine any mechanism which might account for strong-signal bent paths, so it's not surprising that they don't seem to exist, at least not at these frequencies.

On the matter of widespread sporadic-E, I'm not going to touch that one! But it reminds me that many times in this sunspot maximum, there have been sudden almost global onsets of 6m F2, simultaneously (e.g., within a 5-minute period). And almost as suddenly, the band dies, everywhere simultaneously. Apparently the cause must be some burst of UV from the sun which briefly enhances the MUF over the entire sunward hemisphere. And does 28.885 ever get clogged up on those occasions...



**ICELAND (TF) ACTIVITY UPDATE:** Ted Collins G4UPS reports that Jakob Helgason TF3EJ has raised his power output to 150 watts. TF6MM has sold his 6M gear to TF4LB (HP86) who is now QRV on the band. And finally, TF3SA (HP94) will be QRV on the band shortly. More information as I receive it.

**SM7 GROUP QSL'S:** Arne SM7AED reports that while he is only too pleased to obtain QSL's intended for the other members of the SM7 group, it would be appreciated if people would enclose suitable payment for postage for return QSL's. Otherwise, the cards will be answered via the bureau. Arne says that he recently received QSL cards asking for confirmations by mail with no SASE or payment for postage enclosed! Arne has updated the SM7 Group callsigns for which he can obtain QSL's: SM7AED, SM7CMV, SM7FJE, SM7FMX, SM7JUQ, SM7LXV and SM7SCJ.

**REPORT FROM WF0G/PA (ex: KG4SM):** Steve McDaniel WF0G/PA sends along the following letter from Holland:  
 "Sometime ago you asked me to write when I got on 6M from The Netherlands. It appears that I won't be operating on 6M from here, unfortunately. When I first arrived I applied for a temporary permit plus a 6M permit. I discussed my needs with one of the officials of the Dutch version of the FCC, called the PTT. No mention of special requirements was made during our conversation, but when my temporary permit came, an attached note said that a 6M permit was "impossible." I was then told by a Dutch ham that a Dutch callsign was required, meaning that a permanent license was required before a 6M permit could be issued. At that point I again called the PTT and was told that they would send me an application for a permanent license based upon having passed an amateur radio examination in another country. The form arrived promptly and I then discovered that I had to provide documented proof that I had taken and passed an exam for an amateur radio license. A copy of my current license was specifically excluded as adequate documentation. I wrote to the VE who coordinated the exam session where I took the Amateur Extra code and written exams over two years ago and asked him to send the FCC Form 610 copy and other documents to the PTT. The VE responded promptly but weeks later, still no response from the PTT. I then called the PTT official again and was told that the licensing director had found the documentation insufficient and that he was making further inquiry to the VE who had sent the material. I later discovered that they wanted the VE to verify that I had passed a 20 WPM code test for receiving and sending. The VE explained the FCC rules for administration of the code test for U.S. amateurs and said I had passed the exam for receiving the Morse Code at 20 WPM. Based upon that, they declined to issue me a license suitable for 6M (or for that matter) the packet mode. The incremental tightening of the requirements was frustrating, at best. The option left now is to go up north and take their 12 WPM receive and send exam. However, the bureaucracy has won; I'm not interested in investing anymore time and effort. Besides, who knows what additional rules may be revealed in the process. That, no doubt, is more than you care to hear about my "6M operations" but it is an interesting example of the difficulties built into reciprocal licensing in some countries."

**REPORT FROM GJ4ICD:** Geoff Brown GJ4ICD reports that CN2CW was worked on October 28th for country #99. Geoff goes on to say: "At 1137Z CN2CW was worked on CW. I had been monitoring his beacon for one hour!! He was found on 28 MHz and brought up to 50 MHz. Nine stations in the British Isles worked him. "First" was G4IGO, then GW4EAI, G4DDA, GJ4ICD, G4UPS, G4AHN, G3UKI (G3UKV?), GW4LXO, G3UKV, and GW3MFY."

**FD1GTR QSL INFO:** Howard Sine WB4WXE sends along the QSL info for FD1GTR who is not in the 1991 Callbook: Mr. Guilloit Jean-Philippe, La Gabardeliere 17139, Dompierre/Mer, France

## A F R I C A N                      N E W S

**TU2EW NOW QRV ON 6M:** TU2EW in the Ivory Coast appeared on the band during October. His QSL route is: Daniel Blau, P.O. Box 1890, Abidjan 11, Ivory Coast

**ZD8Z ASCENSION ISLAND:** Jim Neiger N6TJ will be returning to Ascension Island and will be operational as ZD8Z between January 8-15, 1991. It is said that he will concentrate on 160 and 6 meters. QSL is via W6CF.  
**QSL INFO:** James A. Maxwell W6CF, POB 473, Redwood Estates, California 95044

**ZD8LII ASCENSION ISLAND:** On October 27th, John Ackley KP2A reported working ZD8LII on 6M. He gave his QSL information as: Steve Hodgson, P.O. Box 2, Ascension Island, South Atlantic Ocean.

**3X1SG REPUBLIC OF GUINEA:** This is a reminder that contacts with 3X1SG (or any 3X station for that matter) are not being accepted by the ARRL for DXCC purposes. There is reported to be a "Minister of Communications" in the country, but no licensing department. The best advice would be to work 3X1SG if you hear him and hold onto your confirmation in case something positive develops.

### SENEGAL (6W) QSL INFORMATION:

**6WIBL** Jacques Bonnafous, Minist Interieur, Box 4002, Dakar, Senegal  
**6W1QC** (via JA8KJH) Toshihiko Kiya, 2-21-13, Hokuei, Chitose, Hokkaido 066, Japan  
**6W1/JA8RWU** A. Asai, 1126 Kamiosatsu, Chitose, Hokkaido 066, Japan

### CN2CW DX-PEDITION RESULTS: Jacky Calvo F2CW worked the following stations on 6M in late October 1990:

OCT 26	1300Z	ZS6LN	599 CW	OCT 28	1137Z	G4UPS	599 CW
	1338Z	ZS6WB	559 CW		1138Z	G4AHN	599 CW
	1828Z	ZB0T	55 SSB		1139Z	G3UKI	599 CW (possibly G3UKV?)
OCT 28	1130Z	G4IGO	599 CW		1143Z	GW4LXO	599 CW
	1131Z	GW4EAI	599 CW		1144Z	G3UKV	599 CW
	1134Z	G4DDA	599 CW		1146Z	GW3MFY	599 CW
	1136Z	GJ4ICD	599 CW				

**5V7SA REPORTED TO BE INTERESTED IN 6M OPERATION:** John Walker WZ8D reports that he had a QSO with 5V7SA in Togo who stated that he had some interest in 6M operations from this rare country. John informed him to check in periodically on 28.885 MHz for information. After hearing of this, I immediately sent a letter to WB4LFM who is 5V7SA's QSL Manager. Hopefully, I'll receive a prompt reply whereas gear for 6M can be shipped to him and put to immediate use. Togo borders both Ghana and Benin in Western Africa about 5°-10° north of the Equator which makes it an excellent location for 6M work. Let's hope that this situation works out for the best. Any replies from either WB4LFM or 5V7SA will be printed in this bulletin as soon as possible.



## S O U T H      A M E R I C A N      N E W S

**ZP5AA 6M BEACON:** Pat Bunn N4LTA reports that he completed building a 5 watt beacon for ZP5AA in Paraguay which was sent via Airmail on December 18th. The beacon frequency is 50.023 MHz (crystal frequency), actual frequency is 50.0245 MHz. The ID is: "ZP ZP ZP ZP5AA GG14" and repeats in the CW mode at 5 watts output. The beacon will be installed and maintained by Doug ZP6XDW at the Radio Club of Paraguay club station in Asuncion.

**KB6SL/CE3 EXPRESSES INTEREST IN RUNNING A BEACON:** Kevin KB6SL/CE3 indicates he is now willing to run a beacon in the Santiago area, if one can be supplied. If such a donation could be expedited, it could be on the air in time to be of help during the XQØX operation. Kevin is available, especially on weekends, on 28.885.

**XQØX SAN FELIX:** The equipment for XQØX is coming along nicely. W6YLZ is loaning an FT-690, and W6TBO is loaning a 120 watt Lunar brick amplifier. N6CA, N6CW, and N6XQ have also been involved, and they have delivered the gear to KD6QE (KB6SL/CE3's brother), who is hand-carrying it to Santiago, Chile. On the Chilean end, CE3BFZ has already supplied the Hy-Gain 4 element yagi. Mickey CE3ESS is handling the coordination and QSL management for this Isla San Ambrosio DXpedition. KB6SL/CE3 and NI6E/KH6 have been setting all of this up via 28.885 MHz. The equipment will probably arrive on the island sometime in late January, in plenty of time for the February upswing of north/south propagation. XQØX (also known as CEØZAM), a lobster fisherman, has no DX experience, although he did witness the recent CEØZZZ operation at close hand. It is expected that he will start out with 40 meters (where there will be liaison with Santiago "en Espanol" on 7040 KHz) and then expand to the other bands, including 6 meters. No doubt he will receive plenty of operating advice, but clearly we 6M men will have to be on our toes to work this one. It is unknown whether there will be 28.885 MHz liaison.

## A S I A N      N E W S

**4S7/JA1OEM DX-PEDITION RESULTS:** Shinichi Toyofuku JA1OEM worked 81 JA's in call areas JA1-6 between November 17-20. Using an FT650 and 6 element yagi, he beamed various directions in the beacon mode, however, only Japan was worked during his stay.

**ZC4 OPERATION PLANNED BY GØJHC:** Neil Carr GØJHC will be signing ZC4/GØJHC between February 9-16 from grid square KM64. Propagation at this time of year will be mainly into Africa. Equipment is not known.

**QSL INFO:** Neil Carr GØJHC, 43 Moorhey Drive, Penwortham, Preston, Lancs, PR1 OSS, England

## N E W S      F R O M      O C E A N I A

**9M8SEA DX-PEDITION RESULTS:** 9M8SEA (East Malaysia) was activated for the SEANET Convention and was the first-ever 6M operation from this country. Using an FT655 and a 6 element beam, the crew of 9M2CS, 9M2BZ, WA2HZR, VS6BI, JA8RUZ and JA1UT were active between November 8-12. The only contacts made on 6M were with Japan. Their totals were as follows: JA1 (174), JA2 (88), JA3 (76), JA4 (25), JA5 (26), JA6 (51), JA7 (40), JA8 (12), JA9 (25), JAØ (26)...Total: 543 QSO's. QSL is via JA1UT.

**VK9YQS LORD HOWE:** Steve VK9LE (VK3OT) joined VK9YQS here for a few days in early December. Unknown to Steve, someone unfortunately put out the word worldwide on packet systems that Lord Howe could be worked on 28.885 MHz, resulting in some abuse of that frequency by hopeful 10M DX'ers (as if DX'ing on 10M were something more than shooting fish in a barrel). Steve advises that VK9YQS will continue at Lord Howe through February, but only on VHF.

**KERMADEC ISLANDS:** Kerry ZL2TPY advises that he is hoping to depart on the boat for Kermadec (ZL8) on April 5th (great timing!). He is still looking for contributions for this very costly DXpedition. Kermadec has not yet been active on 6M in Cycle 22. Kerry is thinking of bringing along some high-powered 144 MHz gear to explore the TEP path.

**V85 OPERATION PLANNED BY JA9AG:** Yutaka JA9AG will be active on 6M as V85AG (or) V85/JA9AG between February 8-10. He will be operating on the HF bands as well, but he will have a beacon transmitting on 50.110.

**QSL INFO:** Yutaka Yoshii JA9AG, 3-33 Nakataikoyama, Kosugi, Toyama 939-03, Japan

**V85DA TO GO QRT:** The 50 MHz World News which is published by JR3HED reports that Andy V85DA will be going QRT in February 1991. QSL's go via VK1DA.

**4D3HSP QSL INFO:** (op: 4F3BAA) via Box SM 217, Manila, Philippines

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## THE 50 MHz DX BULLETIN

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TO: